



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

George H. Carter for his coöperation and sympathy in connection with the work of the Joint Committee of Congress.

The work of cataloging public documents and congressional committee hearings was then discussed by Messrs. Hastings, Hodges and Godard, and Miss Goldberg, after which Mr. Hastings made the following motion, which was unanimously carried:

That for all important hearings some form of card should be printed as soon as it is believed the hearing is finished, or, if the hearing is to continue for some time, that an open entry card be printed.

It was agreed to submit the foregoing motion to the proper authorities at Washington.

Mr. Godard said that the superintendent of documents had been not only willing

but anxious to do everything he could to assist all libraries in securing documents which were accessible for exchange and in completing sets. A few years ago a valuable volume was published by him, giving a check list of government publications from the beginning down to 1909, and resolution of appreciation for that work he thought would be in order.

Mr. Dullard then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Round Table express its appreciation to the superintendent of documents for the "Check-list of government publications, 1789-1909," and express the hope that a suitable index covering its contents may be made and published at the earliest possible time.

The meeting was then adjourned.

STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS' ROUND TABLE

The State Library Association Presidents' Round Table was held in the reception room of the Seelbach hotel, Tuesday, June 26, under the direction of Miss Alice S. Tyler, director of the Western Reserve Library School and president of the Ohio Library Association. Miss Ione Armstrong, president of the Iowa Library Association, acted as secretary. Sixteen state associations as well as the Ontario Library Association were represented.

In opening the meeting Miss Tyler stated the purpose of the round table was to discuss the possibilities of coöperation, to consider the fundamental questions that come up each year, to determine whether the districting of the states should be done by the state associations or by the state commissions, to inquire if it is the function of state associations to originate legislation, and to advise the affiliation of all state associations with A. L. A.

Mr. Utley asked what the state associations expected and most desired as a return for affiliation with the A. L. A. He

suggested the following benefits: The funds thus secured had made possible the publicity exhibit which is available for state meetings, likewise the bookbinding exhibit; also a collection of photographs and plans of library buildings which may be loaned to any state.

Miss Ahern suggested that the state associations arrange the dates of their meetings so as to avoid conflicts in the same general region. This would make it possible for speakers to go from one state meeting to another. She felt that arrangements for dates might be left until the meeting next year.

Mr. Bliss of Pennsylvania stated that their meetings must be held at a certain time.

Mrs. Thompson of Oklahoma asked for suggestions for a library institute.

Miss Wigginton of Kentucky suggested that the A. L. A. act as a clearing house for state programs. Mr. Utley stated that programs had been furnished when requested. Attention was called to the fact

that such programs appear in *Public Libraries* and *Library Journal*.

Miss Black of Ontario stated that their institute programs devoted much space to book selection and to rural problems. The government pays all expenses of conducting these institutes, every library, no matter how small, receiving a government grant of \$250 for this purpose and individual libraries being fined five dollars if they fail to send delegates. All expenses of delegates to library meetings are paid by the government.

Miss Palmer of North Carolina said their three district meetings were held in the fall and the state meeting in the spring.

Miss Fletcher of Vermont said their association received direct aid from the library commission.

In regard to districting the states Miss

Armstrong stated that the Executive board of the Iowa Library Association created the districts, and coöperated with the library commission in promoting the same.

Mr. Goodwin of Texas told of the difficulties of holding state library meetings where distances were so great.

Mr. Peacock of Rhode Island by way of contrast gave their time schedules, under which they hold three meetings each year, working through the state board of education, which pays all expenses.

Mr. Kerr of Kansas gave an outline of their last program, in which "The book" was the central theme.

In closing the discussion Miss Tyler strongly urged affiliation with the A. L. A., and that each state association should coöperate with the A. L. A. in war service.

LENDING DEPARTMENT ROUND TABLE

The second annual meeting of the Lending Department Round Table was held June 23, with an attendance of about two hundred. Owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. Chalmers Hadley, Mr. Arthur L. Bailey took the chair.

The first paper, entitled "Prompt service," given by Miss Arabel Martin of Minneapolis, touched briefly on a number of points of present importance to workers in the circulating departments, with the object of rousing discussion on these points.

As the title of her paper indicates, Miss Martin's first plea was for promptness in service—"not a few hours or days after the request has been made but at the time of the demand. The rapidity and promptness with which the work is done can be accomplished only with the organization by which the department is kept in a state of readiness. Prompt service means the minimum of red tape. Leave out some of it in your rules, open more shelves, liberalize the allowance of books and the

time limits, show more books, more personality and less library machinery. . . . Efficient loan desk help costs more money but it is worth it, consequently a good investment if it is more costly. . . . Physical conditions can be much aided by scheduling each assistant to a variety or change of work each day. Oftentimes the proper adjustment of trays or the height of the desk or chair will result in less weariness; proper light adjustment means much. . . . One of the things to be righteously hoped for is the establishment of a sabbatical year by which each librarian is given at least six months every seventh year with pay. This would give a staff daily growing more mature and efficient, but not necessarily older, on account of the natural results of proper rest.

Other topics touched were, rushing reserved books through the bindery; ordering special books on request of patrons; issuing such books before they are cataloged; the use of parcel post; simplified registration; and the issuing and receiving